외국인을 위한
한국어 한마디

Practical Korean Expressions for Foreigners

국립국어원
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF THE KOREAN LANGUAGE

1 Korean Romanization and Examples 국어의 로마자 표기와 영어 용례

Vowel	Romanization	Approximate Pronunciation	Example
ㅏ	a	father	Ansan 안산
ㅓ	eo	sun	Jeonju 전주
ㅗ	o	horse	Jonggak 종각
ㅜ	u	pool	Ulsan 울산
ㅡ	eu	(like u but without lip rounding)	Euljiro 을지로
ㅣ	i	fill	Incheon 인천
ㅐ	ae	apple	Daegu 대구
ㅔ	e	pen	Jeju 제주
ㅚ	oe	west	Goesan 괴산
ㅟ	wi	window	Seogwipo 서귀포
ㅑ	ya	yard	Yangyang 양양
ㅕ	yeo	young	Buyeo 부여
ㅛ	yo	York	Yongsan 용산
ㅠ	yu	you	Yugyo 유교
ㅒ	yae	yank	yaegi 얘기
ㅖ	ye	yes	Yesan 예산
ㅘ	wa	Wanda	Gwangju 광주
ㅙ	wae	wagon	Waegwan 왜관
ㅝ	wo	wonder	Suwon 수원
ㅞ	we	west	gwedo 궤도
ㅢ	ui	(like *eu+i* in one syllable)	Yeouido 여의도

Consonant	Romanization	Approximate Pronunciation	Example
ㄱ	g	gift	Gangnam 강남
ㄲ	kk	sky	kkachi 까치
ㅋ	k	king	keugi 크기
ㄷ	d	do	Daejeon 대전
ㄸ	tt	star	tteok 떡
ㅌ	t	top	ttaewon 이태원
ㅂ	b	boat	Busan 부산
ㅃ	pp	speak	appa 아빠
ㅍ	p	party	Pohang 포항
ㅈ	j	jacket	Jirisan 지리산
ㅉ	jj	waltz	jjigae 찌개
ㅊ	ch	child	Chuncheon 춘천
ㅅ	s	smile	Seoul 서울
ㅆ	ss	sea	ssuk 쑥
ㅎ	h	hand	Hangang 한강
ㄴ	n	name	Namwon 남원
ㅁ	m	moon	Masan 마산
ㅇ	ng	song	Gangwon 강원
ㄹ	r	very	Marado 마라도
	l	lake	Jamsil 잠실 Silla 신라

2 Greetings and Basic Expressions 인사와 기초 표현

- Hello.
  안녕하세요?
  annyeonghaseyo?

- My name is Peter.
  저는 피터입니다.
  jeoneun *Peter*-imnida.

- It's nice to meet you.
  반갑습니다.
  ban-gapseumnida.

- Goodbye (when the other person is leaving).
  안녕히 가세요.
  annyeonghi gaseyo.

- Goodbye (when the other person is staying).
  안녕히 계세요.
  annyeonghi gyeseyo.

- Thank you.
  감사합니다.
  gamsahamnida.

- Sorry.
  미안합니다.
  mianhamnida.

- Excuse me.
  실례합니다.
  sillyehamnida.

3 Transportation 교통

There are two kinds of taxis in Korea: a standard taxi and a deluxe taxi. A deluxe taxi is slightly more expensive than a standard taxi. Taxi fares are usually paid in cash, but many taxis now accept payment by credit card or public transit card. Tipping is not necessary.

A : Where would you like to go?
어디까지 가세요?
eodikkaji gaseyo?

B : Please take me to Gyeongbokgung Palace.
경복궁에 가 주세요.
Gyeongbokgung-e ga juseyo.

A : Please stop here. How much is it (the fare)?
여기에서 세워 주세요. 얼마예요?
yeogieseo sewo juseyo. eolmayeyo?

B : It's 5,000 won.
5,000원입니다.
ocheon wonimnida.

A : Thank you.
고맙습니다.
gomapseumnida.

- Please take me to this address.
  이 주소로 가 주세요.
  i jusoro ga juseyo.

- Can you go quickly?
  좀 빨리 가 주세요.
  jom ppalli ga juseyo.

- Please make a right turn.
  우회전 해 주세요.
  uhoejeon hae juseyo.

- Where is the nearest subway station?
  이 근처에 지하철역이 어디에 있어요?
  i geuncheo-e jihacheollyeogi eodie isseoyo?

- Which subway line should I take to go to COEX?
  코엑스에 가려면 지하철 몇 호선을 타야 돼요?
  COEX-e garyeomyeon jihacheol myeot hoseoneul taya dwaeyo?

- Which station should I get off at to go to COEX?
  코엑스에 가려면 무슨 역에서 내려요?
  COEX-e garyeomyeon museun yeogeseo naeryeoyo?

- Where should I go to transfer to subway line No. 3?
  3호선으로 갈아타려면 어디로 가야 돼요?
  sam-hoseoneuro garataryeomyeon eodiro gaya dwaeyo?

- Does this bus go to Myeong-dong?
  이 버스가 명동에 가요?
  i *Bus*-ga Myeong-dong-e gayo?

- Which bus (number) should I take to go to Apgujeong-dong?

  압구정동에 가려면 몇 번 버스를 타야 해요?

  Apgujeong-dong-e garyeomyeon myeot beon *Bus*-reul taya haeyo?

- Please open the door.

  문 좀 열어 주세요.

  mun jom yeoreo juseyo.

- Where should I get off to go to Insa-dong?

  인사동에 가려면 어디에서 내려요?

  Insa-dong-e garyeomyeon eodieseo naeryeoyo?

- Where can I reload my transit card?

  교통카드 어디에서 충전해요?

  gyotong-*Card* eodieseo chungjeonhaeyo?

- Left turn : 좌회전 (jwahoejeon)
- Go straight : 직진 (jikjin)
- Ticket counter : 표 파는 곳 (pyo paneun got)
- Platform : 타는 곳 (taneun got)
- To transfer : 갈아타는 곳 (garataneun got)
- Exit : 나가는 곳 (naganeun got)

4 Shopping 쇼핑

Dongdaemun 동대문

This is a huge clothes market. You can even shop here late at night.
(Exit 13 or 14 of Dongdaemun History & Culture Park station on subway line No.'s 2, 4, and 5)

Myeong-dong 명동

This area of Seoul is a popular shopping district for tourists.
(Exit 6 of Myeong-dong station on subway line No. 4)

A: How much do these come out to?
이거 전부 얼마예요?
igeo jeonbu eolmayeyo?

B: They're 20,000 won.
20,000원이에요.
iman woniyeo.

A: That's a bit expensive.
Please give me a discount.
조금 비싸요. 깎아 주세요.
jogeum bissayo. kkakka juseyo.

B: Then give me just 18,000 won.
그럼, 18,000원만 내세요.
geureom, manpalcheon wonman naeseyo.

- Where can I find souvenirs?
  기념품은 어디에서 팔아요?
  ginyeompumeun eodieseo parayo?
- What time do you close?
  몇 시에 문을 닫아요?
  myeot sie muneul dadayo?
- I would like to take a look at that.
  저것 좀 보여 주세요.
  jeogeot jom boyeo juseyo.
- I don't know my (their) Korean size(s).
  한국 치수를 잘 몰라요.
  han-guk chisureul jal mollayo.
- Do you have anything cheaper?
  더 싼 거 있어요?
  deo ssan geo isseoyo?
- Do you have another color?
  다른 색 있어요?
  dareun saek isseoyo?

- Clothes : 옷 (ot)
- Hat : 모자 (moja)
- Watch : 시계 (sigye)
- Bag : 가방 (gabang)
- Accessories : 액세서리 (Accessories)
- Electronic goods : 전자제품 (jeonjajepum)
- Food : 음식 (eumsik)
- Pattern : 무늬 (muni)
- Shape : 모양 (moyang)
- Design : 디자인 (Design)

- Please recommend a nice gift.
  좋은 선물을 추천해 주세요.
  jo-eun seonmureul chucheonhae juseyo.

- I'll take this one.
  이걸로 주세요.
  igeollo juseyo.

- Please gift-wrap it.
  포장해 주세요.
  pojanghae juseyo.

- This size doesn't fit me.
  치수가 안 맞아요.
  chisuga an majayo.

- Pay : 계산 (gyesan)
- Exchange : 교환 (gyohwan)
- Refund : 환불 (hwanbul)

5 Tourism 관광

Namsangol Hanok Village
남산골 한옥 마을
Get a glimpse of how Seoul looked in days of yore.
(Exit 3 of Chungmuro station on subway line No.'s 3 and 4)

N Seoul Tower N 서울타워
Gaze down upon Seoul. The night-scape is especially awe-inspiring.
(Bus No. 2 after taking Exit 6 of Dongguk University station on subway line No. 3)

A: Excuse me. Do you mind taking a picture (of me/us)?
실례합니다. 사진 좀 찍어 주시겠어요?
sillyehamnida. sajin jom jjigeo jusigesseoyo?

B: Sure.
네.
ne.

A: Please take one more picture.
한 장 더 찍어 주세요.
han jang deo jjigeo juseyo.

B: Are you ready? One, two, three, cheese~
네, 찍습니다. 하나, 둘, 셋, 김치~
ne, jikseumnida. hana, dul, set, gimchi~

- Where is the museum?
  박물관이 어디에 있어요?
  bang mulgwani eodie isseoyo?
- Is there a park nearby?
  이 근처에 공원 있어요?
  i geuncheo e gong won isseoyo?
- Can I get there on foot?
  걸어서 갈 수 있어요?
  georeoseo gal su isseoyo?
- I would like an information booklet.
  안내 책자 좀 주세요.
  annae chaekja jom juseyo
- Is there an English-speaking guide?
  영어 한 는 있는 안내자가 있어요?
  yeong eo hal su inneun annaejaga isseoyo?
- Can I take pictures here?
  여기서 사진 찍어도 돼요?
  yeogiseo sajin jjigeodo dwaeyo

Art museum 미술관 (misulgwan)
- Zoo 동물원 (dongmurwon)

Bathroom 화장실 (hwajangsil)
Map 지도 (jido)
Ticket 입장권 (ipjanggwon)
Admission fee 입장료 (ipjangnyo)
- Free 무료 (muryo)

Restaurant 식당

A Korean meal usually consists of rice, soup, main dishes, and side dishes. The rice and soup are served separately to each individual, but the main dishes and side dishes are placed in the center of the table to be shared with others. There is no need to leave a tip.

A: Excuse me! (calling a waiter)
여기요.
yeogiyo

B: Would you like to order?
주문하시겠습니까?
jumunhasigetseumnikka?

A: Two orders of Bulgogi, please.
불고기 2인분 주세요
bulgogi i-inbun juseyo

B: Yes sir / ma'am.
네 알겠습니다
ne algetseumnida

- Is there a good Korean restaurant nearby?

  이 근처에 맛있는 한국 식당 있어요?

  geuncheo-e masinneun han-guk sikdang isseoyo?

- May I please have a menu?

  차림표 좀 주세요.

  charimpyo jom juseyo

- What is the most popular dish here?

  여기서 제일 인기 있는 음식이 뭐예요?

  yeogi-seo jeil ingi inneun eumsigi mwoyeyo?

- I'd like to order.

  주문할게요.

  jumunhalgeyo

- We'll have (one) Samgyetang and (one) Bibimbap please.

  삼계탕하고 비빔밥 주세요.

  samgyetang hago bibimbap juseyo

- Please leave out the Gochujang.

  고추장 빼 주세요.

  gochujang ppae juseyo

- Side dish 반찬 (banchan)
- Salt 소금 (sogeum)
- Pork 돼지고기 (dwaejigogi)
- Chopsticks 젓가락 (jeotgarak)
- Check 계산서 (gyesanseo)
- Water 물 (mul)
- Pepper 후추 (huchu)
- Fork 포크 (Fork)
- Spoon 숟가락 (sutgarak)
- Pay 계산 (gyesan)
- Its delicious 맛있어요 (masisseoyo)
- Its spicy 매워요 (maewoyo)

7 Telephone 전화

It is not easy to find a pay phone on the streets these days due to the widespread use of cell phones. Most pay phones require a phone card, but some only accept coins. Card-operated pay phones are convenient be-cause they can be used to make local and long-distance calls as well as overseas calls. You can purchase a phone card at most convenience stores as well as at special shops that sell phone cards.

A: Hello? Can I speak with Minsu?
여보세요? 민수 씨 계세요?
yeoboseyo? Minsu-ssi gyeseyo?

B: He's not here right now.
지금 안 계신데요.
jigeum an gyesindeyo.

A: Okay, I'll call back later.
그럼, 다시 전화 드리겠습니다.
geureom, dasi jeonhwa deurigetseumnida.

B: Okay.
네, 알겠습니다.
ne, algetseumnida.

- Where is the nearest pay phone?
  이 근처에 공중전화가 어디 있어요?
  geuncheo-e gongjungjeonhwaga eodi isseoyo?
- Where can I buy a phone card?
  어디에서 전화카드를 살 수 있어요?
  eodieseo jeonhwa kadeureul sal su isseoyo
- How do I make an international call?
  국제 전화는 어떻게 해요?
  gukje jeonhwaneun eotteoke haeyo?
- Can I speak with Minsu?
  민수 씨 좀 부탁합니다.
  Minsu-ssi jom butakhamnida
- Can you put someone who speaks English on the phone?
  영어 할 수 있는 사람 좀 바꿔 주세요
  yeongeo hal su inneun saram jom bakkwo juseyo
- Excuse me? [Can you repeat that?]
  다시 말씀해 주세요
  dasi malsseumhae juseyo

- Long-distance call 시외전화 (sioejeonhwa)
  Local call 시내전화 (sinaejeonhwa)
- Text message 문자 메시지 (munja Message)

Hospital·Pharmacy 병원 약국

If you get sick, go to a hospital to receive medical treatment and a prescription, if necessary. Pick up your medicine by bringing the prescription to a pharmacy. You can purchase household medicine at a pharmacy without a prescription.

A: My stomach hurts.
배가 아파요.
baega apayo

B: When did you first feel sick?
언제부터 아팠어요?
eonjeobuteo apasseoyo?

A: Yesterday.
어제부터요.
eojebuteoyo.

- Head 머리 (meori)
- Leg 다리 (dari)
- Back 허리 (heori)
- Tooth 이 (i)
- Cold sweat 식은땀 (sigeunttam)

- I have fever.
  열이 나요.
  yeori nayo.
- I have a cold.
  감기에 걸렸어요.
  gamgie geollyeosseoyo.
- I would like indigestion medicine.
  소화제 좀 주세요.
  sohwaje jom juseyo.
- Should I take it before a meal?
  식사 전에 먹어요?
  siksa jeone meogeoyo?
- How many times a day should I take it?
  하루에 몇 번 먹어요?
  harue myeot beon meogeoyo?
- I take medicine for blood pressure.
  평소에 혈압약을 먹고 있어요.
  pyeongso-e hyeoramnyageul meokgo isseoyo.
- I have traveler's insurance.
  여행자 보험이 있어요.
  yeohaengja boheomi isseoyo.

- Cold medicine : 감기약 (gamgiyak)
- Headache medicine : 두통약 (dutongnyak)
- Eye drops : 안약 (anyak)
- Anti-diarrheal medicine : 지사제 (jisaje)
- Painkiller : 진통제 (jintongje)
- Bandage : 반창고 (banchanggo)
- Aspirin : 아스피린 (Aspirin)
- Diabetes medication : 당뇨약 (dangnyoyak)
- Heart-disease medication : 심장약 (simjangnyak)

9 Request for Help 도움 요청

- Police 경찰 - **112**
- Fire/Ambulance 화재/구급차 - **119**
- Dasan Call Center 다산 콜센터 (for questions about Seoul) - **120**
- Tourism Information for Foreigners 외국인 관광 안내 - **1330**

- Please help me.
  도와주세요.
  dowajuseyo.
- Please call the police.
  경찰 좀 불러 주세요.
  gyeongchal jom bulleo juseyo.
- I need to go to the hospital.
  병원에 가고 싶어요.
  byeongwone gago sipeoyo.
- I lost my bag.
  가방을 잃어 버렸어요.
  gabang-eul ireo beoryeosseoyo.

- Cell phone : 휴대전화 (hyudaejeonhwa)
- Passport 여권 (yeogwon)
- Wallet : 지갑 (jigap)
- Plane ticket : 항공권 (hanggonggwon)

10 Emotions 감정

Koreans tend not to express their emotions to others and place importance on modesty. For example, they will frequently answer "No" when receiving a compliment or being thanked. This is not meant to deny the other person's compliment or gratitude, but is the result of a culture that places enormous value on having a modest attitude.

- It's good. / I like it.
  좋아요.
  joayo.
- It's bad. / I don't like it.
  싫어요.
  sireyo.
- It's fun.
  재미있어요.
  jaemiisseoyo.
- It's okay.
  괜찮아요.
  gwaenchanayo.
- So so.
  그저 그래요.
  geujeo geuraeyo.
- I'm tired.
  피곤해요.
  pigonhaeyo.
- I'm angry.
  화가 나요.
  hwaga nayo.
- Cheer up.
  힘내세요.
  himnaeseyo.

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